PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Fumio ODAKA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1731

Application No.: Rule 53(b) Divisional of

Application No. 09/610,260

Examiner:

C. Fiorilla

Filed: August 30, 2001

Docket No.:

106659.01

For:

SILICON CARBIDE SINTERED BODY AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING

THE SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination in the above-identified Rule 53(b) divisional application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim i without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Please add new claims 12-19 as follow:

A method for producing a silicon carbide sintered body, comprising:

preparing a slurry by dispersing silicon carbide powder in a solvent;

forming a molded body by pouring the slurry into a mold and effecting

calcination of the source in a vacuum atmosphere or in an inert gas atmosphere; and

sealing pores within the calcined molded body by impregnating the pores with

high purity metal silicon molten by heating, and allowing the high purity metal silicon and